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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. Fundación Intervida (Special; 2001)

I. Introduction

Constituted in 1994, Fundación Intervida's mission is to contribute to sustainable human development, providing the resources necessary so that the most vulnerable populations, especially women and children, can strengthen their capacities and create opportunities to improve their living conditions. Intervida works with associated and local entities and local partners in the intervention areas, offering technical, economic and other types of support. Its field work is aligned with the priorities established by local, regional and national authorities and the entities in its networks work hand in hand in pursuit of a common goal: the elimination of poverty.

Aims of the organization: During this four-year period, Intervida emphasized awareness-raising and education for development through various campaigns aimed at creating conscience and encouraging a change in attitudes in more privileged societies, participating in the work of various national and international networks with similar goals.

Significant changes in the organization: Following an investigation, in 2003, into the suspected inappropriate use of Intervida funds, its then directors were suspended by Spanish judicial authorities in July 2007 and replaced by a legal administration. These legal administrators currently control the administrative and managerial work of the Foundation. Intervida did not interrupt any of its development activities during this transition and, after a crucial period of self-reflection, resumed its near-full functioning by the end of 2008.

Changes in the constitution: Changes were made to the Foundation's bylaws during the four-year period covered by the present report, including changes involving tax benefits and the inclusion of development cooperation, international solidarity, education and awareness activities and humanitarian aid in emergency situations in developing countries.

Expanded sectors and intervention areas: In order to align its efforts with international frames of reference, the Foundation integrated the cross-cutting sectors of gender, citizen participation and children's rights into the work of the established sectors of education, health, environment, culture and economic development. In addition, during the four-year period, the Foundation created a food security sector.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The Foundation participated in the high-level segments of the Council, the Annual Ministerial Review and the Development Cooperation Forum in 2007 and 2008.

Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

2005: Collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in El Salvador and Mali (2005-2007).

2006: (a) Co-organized a round table with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; (b) monitored meetings with UNICEF in El Salvador; (c) held meetings with the National Committee against Child Labour, supported by the national office of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in El Salvador.

2007: (a) Integrated the Global Compact; (b) sent recommendations to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as part of the Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking; (c) agreement with the ILO office in El Salvador on a project to eliminate child labour; (d) coordinated with UNICEF on the donation of library materials to the Intervida documentation centre in Nicaragua; (e) published an article in *UN Chronicle*.

2008: (a) Participated in the Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking, organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; (b) held meetings with UNICEF to organize joint education and other children's rights activities for 2009; (c) participated in the twenty-second and twenty-third meetings of the International Action Group of the World Tourism Organization; (d) supported the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child in organizing and publicizing the Third World Congress against the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents; (e) co-organized the National Childhood Forum in El Salvador; (f) coordinated work with ILO on the implementation of a project to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in El Salvador; (g) coordinated with ILO El Salvador to commemorate World Day against Child Labour; (h) offered training on parents' educational involvement, attitudes towards AIDS and attitudes towards women; (i) participated in the sixty-first Annual Conference of the Department for Public Information for Non-Governmental Organizations (DPI/NGO Conference).

Fundación Intervida has launched a number of initiatives to support the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals. Its programmes in Central and South America, Africa and Asia have been developed in response to the Millennium Development Goals, in particular:

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. Target 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than $1 a day (755 comprehensive production projects).

Target 2: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. (a) 266,043 children fed daily; (b) 6,439 provided with nutritional care; (c) 8,617 expectant mothers attended to; (d) 11,447 mothers trained in nutrition; (e) 835 school kitchens set up.

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education.

Target 3: Ensure that by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling. (a) 4,740,013 school material packages delivered; (b) 3,313 classrooms built or renovated; (c) 8,796 children attended Intervida centres; (d) 34,796 teachers trained.

Goal 5: Improve maternal health.

Target 1: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio. (a) 1,898,098 general medical check-ups given; (b) 1,291 community midwives trained.

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability.

Target 10: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. (a) 244 drinking water systems installed; (b) 700 school sanitary services installed; (c) 25 integral community health-care systems established.

2. Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America (General; 1985)

I. Introduction

Aims and purposes of the organization and its main course of action

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South Americas is an international organization with members and affiliated members in the United States of America, Canada and Central and South America. A humanitarian and family-oriented body whose budget is based on family membership, the Council has about 325,000 family members. It supports programmes in developing countries such as Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, the Republic of Korea, the United Republic of Tanzania, Indonesia and Ethiopia. The Council promotes the United Nations principles of maintaining peace and security in the world by working together with the nations of the world to promote better welfare, education and health conditions, encouraging respect for individual rights and freedoms, enhancing the status of women, protecting the environment, eliminating poverty, condemning racism and racial discrimination in the world and achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2025.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

Representatives of the Council attended numerous meetings at United Nations Headquarters, including the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council in 2005 and the high-level event on the Millennium Development Goals in September 2008. Representatives also made oral statements at the forty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development and at the annual DPI/NGO Conference in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters: The Council established medical clinics, schools and community centres in Kenya and Uganda in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNESCO and UNICEF. Donations to UNICEF from 2005 to 2008 amounted to $120,000. In the field of disaster relief, the Council cooperated with the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs to aid victims of the tsunami disaster with financial contributions of $500,000, including 35,000 health kits and school kits. The Council provided $25,000 to Pakistan for earthquake relief, $1,000,000 to the Katrina Relief Fund and $4,000,000 to Greece for its Fire Relief Fund.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The Council's Orthodox mission team programmes send short-term volunteers who are doctors, educators, construction workers, engineers, carpenters and students to assist communities around the world, including in Kenya, Chad, Albania, Uganda, Poland, Slovakia, India, Mexico, the Philippines, Indonesia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Guatemala and Madagascar. Volunteers offer their expertise to help establish medical and dental clinics, build schools, restore and build churches, develop agriculture and build water wells. Working in collaboration with local governments and United Nations organizations, mission volunteers have helped to: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger with urban farming projects and microcredit loans in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo and Georgia; achieve universal primary education by founding and building schools and supporting orphanages in Calcutta, India, as well as in Guatemala and Madagascar; reduce child mortality and improve maternal health by building medical clinics for children and women in Woliso, Ethiopia; combat HIV/AIDS by providing education and prevention projects in Ethiopia and Romania; and ensure environmental sustainability by building wells and initiating irrigation projects in Albania, Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Activities in support of global principles: As an original member of the NGO Working Group on the Family, the Council promotes the strengthening of the family in accordance with General Assembly resolutions. In conjunction with United Nations organizations, religious groups, NGOs and national and local governments, the Council has developed guidebooks, visual resources and social programmes with the aim of preventing the breakdown of the family. It has also held workshops on trafficking of women and children, forced child labour and forced recruitment of child soldiers. Protection of the environment was the topic of several symposiums conducted by the Council at its clergy-laity congress in 2006 and 2008. The Council co-sponsored a panel discussion commemorating the adoption of the General Assembly resolution adopting the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief.

Other relevant activities: The Council is a member of several NGO Committees. In 2008, the Council helped to organize an all-day civil society forum prior to the annual meeting of the Commission for Social Development.

3. Habitat International Coalition (Special; 1993)

I. Introduction

Habitat International Coalition/Housing and Land Rights Network is an independent, international, non-profit network of civil society organizations and individuals working in the area of human settlements. Through its work, which is based on advocacy and support for the urban and rural poor and on solidarity networking and debate, the Coalition aims to unite the efforts of civil society towards the implementation of the right to adequate housing and the creation of a liveable planet for all. The Coalition underwent a global evaluation process in 2006 and 2007, as a result of which its membership and social base in 112 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas has been consolidated.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

2008: (a) Presented its submission, which covered, to the intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group of the Durban Review Conference, discrimination patterns and trends in housing and land across regions; (b) participated in the fortieth session of the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights; (c) provided assistance to drafters on discrimination in housing and land in preparation of the draft outcome document of the Durban Review Conference in 2009.

2007: (a) Twenty-first session of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); Governing Council; (b) second, second special, third and fourth sessions of the Human Rights Council; (c) seventieth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; (d) expert meeting on indicators for monitoring compliance with international human rights instruments; (e) NGO briefing at the sixty-ninth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; (f) thirty-sixth session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; (g) second UN-Habitat/UNESCO/International Social Science Council Working Meeting.

2005: (a) Thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development; (b) twentieth session of the UN-Habitat Governing Council; (c) sixty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA): (a) The Coalition cooperated throughout 2005 and 2006 in the preparation of the annual report to the Economic and Social Council on the social and economic repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan; (b) the ESCWA Shelter Division commissioned the Coalition coordinator to conduct a bilingual (Arabic/English) flagship study, entitled "Prospects for the Arab city facing the multiple challenge of war, conflict, social cohesion and the fulfilment of human rights", which was submitted in February 2007.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR): (a) The Coalition carried out a consultancy at the request of the OHCHR Research and Right to Development Branch to develop instructions for each indicator on treaty compliance under the right to adequate housing; (b) the Middle East Regional Office commissioned the development of terms of reference for a consultation on a thematic evaluation of the use of human rights mechanisms by human rights defenders in the Middle East/North Africa region; (c) the Mexico country office commissioned the Coalition to write manuals on the implementation of housing rights in Mexico.

ILO: (a) The ILO Evaluation Unit contracted the first evaluation of a decent work country programme managed through the Regional Office for Arab States; (b) the independent evaluation of the ILO country programme for Jordan: 2002-2007

(September 2008) was submitted to the ILO Governing Body in November 2008; (c) in 2007, the Coalition reported that the Government of Mexico had violated the violation of the rights to consultation and participation in the context of the La Parota hydroelectric dam project.

Human Rights Council (formerly the Commission on Human Rights): Throughout the reporting period, the members and entities of the Coalition worked with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, including on case data, thematic analysis and civil society support for country missions to Canada and South Africa (2007), Spain, Australia and Lebanon (2006), and Cambodia (2005).

Initiatives undertaken by the Coalition in support of internationally agreed development goals: The Coalition developed a methodology for monitoring Millennium Development Goal 7, consistent with the permanent obligation of States to respect, protect and fulfil the right to adequate housing, and produced and distributed the methodology in print and electronic form as *Closing the Human Rights Gap in MDG 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability* (in English, 2007; Arabic, 2008). Since 2001, and throughout the reporting period, the Coalition has worked on the development of a World Charter on the Right to the City, a collective undertaking on the demand for justice and for equitable opportunities for every woman and man to live in cities.

4. International Association of Judges (Special; 1985)

I. Introduction

The International Association of Judges was founded in Salzburg, Austria, in 1953 as a professional, non-political, international organization grouping not individual judges, but national associations of judges. Its main aim is to safeguard the independence of the judiciary as an essential requirement of the judicial function and as a guarantee of human rights and freedoms. The Association is also invaluable in facilitating contacts between judges in its member countries and between them and colleagues of other States, including approaching the judiciaries of new democracies. The organization encompasses 73 national associations (in 2004 there were 67 member associations).

The Association has four regional groups: (a) the European Association of Judges, (b) the Iberoamerican Group, (c) the African Group, and (d) the Asian, North American and Oceanian Group, and four study commissions, whose work is focused on the following areas: status of the judiciary and judicial administration, civil law and procedure, criminal law and procedure, and public and social law. The sources of funding are the annual membership fees. The Association has consultative status with ILO and the Council of Europe.

The Association has representatives at the United Nations offices in New York, Geneva and Vienna. Information on the participation of its representatives in United Nations initiatives is disseminated by the General Secretariat to members of the judiciaries of member countries. The evolution of the relationship between the United Nations and the Association is described in some contributions published in the volume *History of the International Association of Judges* (2007).

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Since the Association does not have offices in New York, Geneva or Vienna, it is represented at United Nations offices and conferences mainly by local judges during their free time from professional commitments.

2005: In order to improve and formalize the collaboration between the United Nations Office at Geneva and the Association, a meeting was organized between Louise Arbour, then United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Leandro Despouy, Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers and representatives of the Association, including its President and Secretary General. Participants discussed possible ways to reinforce the interaction between the Association and the United Nations Office at Geneva through: (a) regular exchange of information; (b) participation in the drafting process of United Nations documents relating to the independence of the judiciary; (c) the presence of representatives of the Association in countries where the strengthening of the rule of law and the independence of judges are under discussion, including the participation of those representatives in the training of judges; and (d) cooperation on inquiries into such issues in specific geographical areas. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat showed an interest in these proposals.

The most productive meetings, in the view of the Association, were the interactive workshop sessions and multi-stakeholder dialogues, in particular the programme sponsored by the Society for International Development based on Secretary-General Kofi Annan's report "In larger freedom".

2006: (a) Attendance at the fifty-ninth Annual DPI/NGO Conference: workshops at the Conference included "Using legal programming and pro bono partnership to build NGO capacity and support rule of law"; (b) eighth session of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, held in Vienna; (c) a representative of the Association travelled to Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, to present a speech and lead a training seminar for the judges of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda; (d) meeting in The Hague with the President of the International Criminal Court and other judges of the Court.

2007: (a) Attended the sixtieth Annual DPI/NGO Conference on "Climate change: how it impacts us all"; (b) fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women; (c) sixteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

2008: (a) Conference at the International Civil Aviation Organization; (b) Senior Round Table for Women's Justice, Washington, D.C.; (c) a representative of the Association is currently involved with a justice reform programme in Afghanistan, which sponsors judges and lawyers from Afghanistan to attend educational programmes in the United States; (d) sixty-first Annual DPO/NGO Conference on the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (e) in the context of the Millennium Development Goals, the Association is cooperating with the NGO Mouvement international ATD quart monde.

The present quadrennial report, presented in response to the request of the Economic and Social Council, shows the continued interest and participation of the International Association of Judges, as an NGO, in the work of the United Nations in the specific fields of judicial independence, organization and training.

5. International Federation for Home Economics (Special; 1981)

I. Introduction

The aims and purposes of the organization and its main course of action.

Founded in 1908, the mission of the International Federation for Home Economics is to provide a forum for home economists as advocates for individuals, families and households in their home countries and at the United Nations. Its member organizations, located in 116 countries in five regions of the world (Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Pacific), bring together more than 20 professional associations, as well as numerous groups and individuals. Its Congress, comprising both organizational and individual members, convenes every four years to formulate resolutions and recommendations that determine the direction of its work. Its Council, consisting of representatives of member organizations, meets every two years to consider programmes and policies. The Executive Committee and Programme Committees, which meet annually, are responsible for implementing the programme of work.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

The Federation is involved in issues related to the family, ageing and children, in connection with which it has sent representatives to numerous meetings at United Nations Headquarters including: (a) the forty-third to forty-sixth sessions of the Commission for Social Development; and (b) the forty-ninth to fifty-second sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Actively participated, from 2005 to 2008, in planning the International Day of the Family, held annually in May and co-organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Public Information.

Annual DPI/NGO Conferences: Federation representatives attended the fifty-eighth to sixty-first sessions (2005-2008).

6. International Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse (Special; 1989)

I. Introduction

The aims and purposes of the organization and its main course of action

The objectives of the International Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse are: (a) the development of collaborative and fruitful interactions among NGOs regionally and internationally to identify the needs for service and to implement diversified programmes to prevent

and control drug abuse, with the ultimate aim of achieving a drug-free society; and (b) the promotion of cooperation and collaboration between governmental organizations and NGOs at the national, regional and international levels.

Any change that may have had a significant impact on the Organization.

Increase in membership: Membership in the Federation has grown from 82 members in 38 countries (in December 2004) to 91 members in 42 countries (as at December 2008).

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

The principal office-bearers of the Federation are annually designated as accredited representatives to the United Nations and its regional offices. Representatives of the Federation attended the sixty-first, sixty-second and sixty-fourth sessions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific as observers.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The representatives of the Federation: (a) participated as important strategic partners in collaboration with WHO to increase global awareness of the harm associated with alcohol abuse; (b) circulated among the membership the tentative schedule of meetings of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; (c) collaborated with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific and participated in the "Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and China cooperative operations in response to dangerous drugs" task force from 2005 to 2008; and (d) collaborated with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs and served as one of the three lead regional NGOs for South-East Asia, East Asia and the Pacific Region.

Other relevant activities

The Federation, in collaboration with its affiliates, has organized two annual international conferences, the first on "Mobilizing community resources to prevent substance abuse", and the second on "Wholesome families — no drugs".

In addition, the Federation hosted and organized a number of workshops in collaboration with its affiliates in ASEAN, and attended the twenty-seventh to twenty-ninth meetings of ASEAN senior officials on drug matters. The Secretary of the Federation was elected Vice-President of the Asia Pacific Family Organization in 2008.